

Accomplishments Highlights for December 2001

FRS Population - The FRS population has grown to 753,437 unique facility records and 1,002,619 Program Interests as of December 31, 2001. This approaches the new GPRA goals to which the FRS Team has committed: 850,000 records in FY 2002. Our initial FY 2002 goal was 500,000 records, and our initial FY 2003 goal was 750,000 unique records. Thank goodness we revised our performance goals upwards!

As of December 31, 2001, FRS has over 753,437 unique facility records linking over 1,002,619 program interests. Program Systems include: all TRI Reporters including CY 2000 Reporters, TSDs, LQGs, SQGs, and CESQG and BRS reporters (all years) in RCRAINFO, all RMPs, PCS-Majors and Minors, AIRS/AFS-Compliance from OECA, NET, NTI and CAMDIS from OAR (this system, which consists of the utility power plants who trade emission release credits, is new in FRS), AQS from OAR (another first in FRS), the State records from Pennsylvania master records from PA-EFACTS, the South Carolina EFIS file, the Mississippi EN-SITE system, the Utah CIM records, the Ohio CORE records, the Maryland EPSC records, the Nebraska IIS records, and the Minnesota Delta records (the over 36,000 Delta records are new as of December 27, 2001, and were submitted from FRS using XML DTDs).

FRS provided North Carolina with over 17,000 records from FRS that pertained to that State; this is a first in having EPA provide a State with integrated facility data. North Carolina expects that this data exchange will jump-start its integration efforts.

Over 83% of all current FRS records are standalones from a single medium system. This has not changed from previous monthly calculations. Getting more State records and incorporating more of the RCRAInfo records has kept this statistic constant. We do have, however, some FRS records that have 9 or 10 environmental programs identified at the site/facility!

The next national data sets are CERCLIS, SDWIS, and Docket from OECA.

SDWIS staff met with the FRS Team in September, and mapping and data review are underway with data loading to FRS expected in early 2002. SDWIS may require a database structural change to accommodate the water system records.

CERCLIS discussions were held in November, and the FRS mapping is now complete. Loading CERCLIS to FRS is expected in early 2002.

State Data Transfers - FRS has ongoing data exchanges with Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Utah, Mississippi, Indiana, Ohio, Nebraska, Maryland, and Minnesota for ongoing data sharing. State data exchanges were expected in December with New Jersey, Louisiana, Delaware and Oregon but staff workload and delays were encountered in these States. New Mexico, Georgia, Tennessee, and Florida have all expressed an interest in data exchanges with FRS in 2002.

FRS Incorporates the OECA-FFIS - Working with OECA, the FRS Team updated the Federal Facility flags in the FRS records. OECA provided resources to support FRS enhancements to the

federal facility designation. Over 8,950 federal facility flags out of the 10,500 universe of federal facilities have been set in FRS. The remaining flags are being set in the Facility Linkage Application. The Envirofacts Warehouse has dropped the FFIS System from the query options since FRS now handles that data.

OECA: ICIS and FRS - The FRS Team continues to meet with the OECA Modernization Team. The goal of these discussions is to have ICIS use the FRS database structure and FRS data as its front-end module for facility information. Progress is moving along very well. ICIS and FRS have exchanged Docket data and facility records, and SOPs are being developed to automate the exchanges.

FRS and XML TAGS and Schemas - The EDR has registered the FRS XML tags. The Facility Data Action Team (FDAT) has the XML consolidated schema under review. These tags and schemas have been adopted by the One Stop Small States Pilot Group-BETA Phase. The FRS Website now displays the XML tags and schemas. Minnesota used the new XML tag formats in the data exchange it submitted to EPA, and it worked beautifully.

FRS and Homeland Security - Due to the events of September 11, 2001, FRS records removed the links to the Risk Management Plan program interests from the public Envirofacts Website at the request of the Agency. The intranet still has the RMP linkages. Security considerations were the driving force to this action. No time frame has been given for when FRS might restore these linkages for public access. No State exchanges from EPA will contain the RMP environmental interest linkages.

The MODEL Trading Partnership Agreement - The State of Nebraska and Region 7 signed a TPA for facility identification data in May, and Mississippi and Region 4 signed a TPA in September. These are the first TPAs for the network, and they have received wide publicity through the trade journals. Other States and Regions are using these TPAs for their models.

Regional Data Stewardship - Regions are awaiting funding for FY 2002 for data quality efforts, data linking, and state coordination support. These resources are in the System Modernization Fund request from OIC for FY 2002. Expected decisions are not expected until February or March.

FRS and the Tribes - Working with OECA staff, the FRS Team has undertaken the task to populate the FRS data element for Tribal lands. Working with the EnviroMapper Support Team, the FRS Team has begun to populate the Tribal element from GIS coverage boundaries that other federal agencies are using.

FRS and Locational Needs - The FRS Team began work in December on locational address-matching tools that FRS and the Regions can use to obtain documented locational Lat/Long values that pertain to a facility. Work on this has been coordinated with the various GIS teams in OEI and the Regions, and the tools are expected in mid-Spring 2002.

Future Milestones

Population of FRS - Further State Master Files will be loaded as they are ready. Many States are in the queue and the FRS Team is awaiting State actions. CERCLIS and DOCKET are next in the population queue, followed by SDWIS.

Over 100,000 program records, from the current national systems and State records, are under manual review by the FRS Team and Regional Data Stewards because of various data quality concerns or poor locational data from the legacy system.

FRS Database and Data Security - Database programming continues to take place to meet the OECA requirements for the sensitive Docket records. Security issues from OSWER, OW, and CDX will be addressed during a database design review for security and structural needs.

FRS Supporting the ICIS Production System in 2002 - FRS will continue to support the ICIS development and deployment as the ICIS Docket module goes from design into production in Spring 2002.

FRS and the Web Display - FRS will make the FRS phone number publically available in Spring 2002 at the request of the CIO and other Stakeholder groups. Search and retrieval of federal facility records, facilities on Tribal lands, and general search options will be enhanced in Envirofacts.

CDX and FRS - These teams have met to discuss mutual support and use. FRS records will be used to validate CDX reports that contain existing Program IDs, and CDX will be used as the portal to receive FRS records from States. CDX, along with the Program office, is reviewing an option to pre-populate Site Forms using FRS and National Systems to assist CDX users. CDX privacy concerns for registered users still need to be addressed.

Items for Additional Discussion and Resolution

These include:

- Long term security considerations of the database and data access, not just with OECA or OSWER in mind, must be examined in light of Homeland Security concerns.
- Pulling all the “facility” records that PCS and OECA hold that are not yet part of the Envirofacts extract.
- Incorporating the D&B file numbers into FRS through an automated process. The D&B files are very large to handle and process.
- The Network State access of FRS facility files available on a come-and-get basis from XML on a web server is still awaiting the EPA Network Internet Node so the FRS data can be posted to the Network.